

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the July 27, 2003, Amendment, for allowing Claims 14-20 and the useful comments in the October 27, 2003, Office Action. Applicants respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6. However, in light of the Examiner's rejection, Applicants cancel Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6.

1. Objection to Specification:

Examiner has objected to the Specification because of a minor informality. As such, Applicants have, as suggested by the Examiner, included the serial number 09/812,230 of co-pending application. As such, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

2. Objection to Claims 1, 14 and 17:

Examiner has objected to Claims 1, 14 and 17 because of minor informalities. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have amended Claim 1 phrase "surfaces" to "surface", Claim 14 phrase "filed" to "field" and Claim 17 phrase "17" to "16". Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these objections and Claim 14 and Claim 17 passage to allowance.

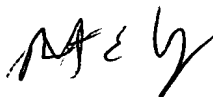
3. Objection to Claim 4 and Claims 7-13:

Examiner has stated pending Claims 4 and 7-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As such, Applicants have amended dependant Claims 4 and Claims 7-13 to independent form. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these objections regarding Claims 4 and 7-13 and passage to allowance.

CONCLUSION

Claims 14 and 17 have been amended to overcome objections in the Office Action. Dependent Claim 4 and Claims 7-13 are herein amended to independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that the presently claimed invention is patentably distinct over the cited references. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable consideration by the Examiner, withdrawal of the present rejections and objections, allowance of the pending claims (i.e., Claims 4, and 7-13), and passage of the present application to issuance are accordingly solicited. *The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for any reason which would advance the pending claims toward allowance.*

Respectfully submitted,



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REK/sf

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